Anne Warren Weston
5. May; W.

June 24th 1856

My Dear Friend,

35- Sitting down to begin a letter to you, brings with it a very at home sort of feeling, for tho' our correspondence has generally been of a business nature, we have always found a little space wherein to slip our opinions of men & things, & your least notes might always take for their motto multum in parvo. I have been intending to write to you a long time but I have been of late, prevented by the state of my eyes. Perhaps you will remember that they troubled me last autumn, but they entirely recovered under the enforced abstinence from any use of them, that my voyage obliged me to & I had no trouble till since I came to Paris. Lizzy Laugel had a good many interesting French books about that I have never read & I believe the unusedness of the type hurt me. Then came the Sumner affair, &

Direct to me Miss A. W. Weston Monnets Hotel Vevey Swisse & I shall receive it. I had a letter from Miss Wright the other day who was at Bristol with Miss Estlin. She has suffered so much with headache she cannot write. All my sisters & Lizzy beg to be most affectionately remembered. Ever yours very truly A. W. W.

while I was thirsting for information quite unexpectedly some N. Y. papers were brought in, & tho' it was in the evening it was not in human nature to resist, & I did myself a great mischief by my eagerness to find out how much had been done to Mr Sumner. But I will take up no more time with my eye, only it explains why I have not written to many of my friends, because I really have, unlike many people that go abroad plenty of time. My strength does not permit me, to go lionizing about, climbing to the tops & diving to the depths, & so I often sit quietly at home in a state of inglorious ease, when I could were it not for the circumstance I have stated write as well as not. Please say this to Mr Dunning as my reason for not answering his very acceptable letter that I received long since. Beg him to write again & tell me all the news that his diocese affords.

I have enjoyed my foreign life thus far extremely, particularly that of Rome. I prefer Rome to Paris very decidedly, but I suppose that I should take several circumstances, entirely extraneous to either city into the account. Louisa is much better in Rome than in Paris, & I shall feel much better satisfied when she is settled for the summer in Switzerland. I do not think Paris has ever agreed with her while Rome suits her entirely. I do not mean to say that Paris has done her any material injury, but she says she does not feel so strong as when in Rome & she languishes for a place where she can get air & exercise more regularly. This Paris spring has really in its cold, its damp, & its sudden changes been almost as bad as a New England one. We shall leave here however this week, & go by very easy journeys to Vevey. We have taken a house there till late in the autumn. It is described as a very good one, half way between Vevey & Chillon with ample grounds and every accommodation. Lizzy, Ann & the baby are going too & Mr Langel will be with us part of the time. I look forward to the summer with very lively anticipations of pleasure and only hope that rest may so far restore my eyes that

I may be able to pursue my
French & Italian. It has been a
great annoyance to me my inability
to speak these languages, & I hope
in the quiet of Switzerland to
master the difficulty, partially at
least. Whether I shall be allowed
another winter or not I cannot say.
It depends on Lucie's state and on
the condition of things at home. While
I hear of my mother as well, I am
content to be away, but if I hear
of her as ailing, I should start tout
de suite. We have been busy at
this early date with the Bazaar.
For the last 3 weeks we have been
constantly occupied in looking up
pretty things & so cautious were we to
make only good bargains, that tho'
the sum at our disposal was not
immensely large, it seemed to me
as if we should never get rid of it.
A council of war was, as it were
held over every dollar, for if any
body went boldly out & bought
all by ones self, you may think
that it was a fearful ordeal, when

2 at dinner the whole family sat
in judgment alike on the taste &
economy that the buyer had displayed.
There are 2 fans that I shall specially
deputize Deborah to see sold at good
prices, for tho' they were very pretty
I was thought to have given a great
price, & I could hardly hold up
my head, till it transpired through an
authentic source that the Duchess of
Kent, had sent over to Paris for fans
of that sort. Then the family concluded
to withold their censure till next
week, & judge as the world usually
does, by the event; if the fans sold
I was justified. — After the things
were all collected we made a
little exposition of our own, a sort
of donation visit for the cause, for
several friends brought in very
pretty contributions. Mr Woods, Mr
Hovey's partner sent us some beautiful
bronzes. Madame Keller the chief
person to help us among the Evangel-
ical people is hard at work & will
I doubt not meet with good success!
but she has two serious obstacles in
her way; one the recent inundations

which have afflicted "the Christians at Lyons" as they coolly style their brethren very severely. And the other & more important difficulty is that the American ministers who come into France, do their best to corrupt the opinions & stifle the sympathy of their French associates, & so Madame K. finds her path much hedged up. But she is a most admirable and spirited person, fully understanding herself, & pretty well understanding the American Church, & she is resolute to go on nothing daunted. I have been twice to her church and enjoyed the services very much. They had all the simplicity of the most remote country parish in New England, & the assembly seemed to consist mostly of the common people. The minister (not their usual one) was according to Caroline who was one of the Sunday with me "a very accomplished & thoughtful man", for I hardly understood him well enough to give a very accurate judgment. Madame Keller gave us the names of several people in Lausanne who are friends of the Cause & I shall try to look them up. But it is a terrible annoyance that I do not speak French. Madame Keller speaks no English - her husband does; he is a very good man, & I think I made him understand partially the villainy of the American Church. I have all the last A. S. papers in the house but have read very little. Poor Sumner! it is dreadful to have had such an experience & I am greatly grieved for him but I have no belief that this event will be productive of much good. Do you remember my telling you when Burns was carried back, that the wave of public indignation tho' surging higher & higher at each fresh outrage, was never up to the requisite mark. If Disunion resolutions had been passed all over the country at the Sumner meetings, it would have been more hopeful, but looking at our country somewhat aloof from the din of the strife, I have the feeling that she is so thoroughly demoralized by Slavery that she has lost all pluck & courage — What I mean is that you could take away their bread & butter from the people of the North that is, the South could, & they would submit. The natural curse has fallen upon those who have connived at the oppression of others in the past, that now they are fit to bear oppression themselves. The men of our day would no more have resisted as the Revolutionary fathers did, than dare to withdraw from the Union now.

But our duty is all the same &
the Abolitionists should go on more
earnestly than ever. The Lord may
save the city for ten's sake.

I enjoyed meeting Mrs White very
much & hope we shall see her
in Switzerland. I have heard nothing
from her since we parted at Rome.

Pray give my affectionate regards
to Mrs May & Addie & to your father
& all the family, & my particular
love to your dear Mother. Tell her I
had a sort of agreeable feeling as if in
the way of my duty when I was
tugging armfuls of china & baskets &c
down 3 pair of stairs to the room where
they were to be packed. Maria's box
will arrive in excellent season as it
is to sail next month for Boston. We
I determined to have no more anguish
over the arrival of the French boxes
even if it cost us more & I told
Madame Keller to send hers by the
Cunard Steamer to Boston late in the
fall. This allows her a longer time
to collect & removes all that trouble
about the N.Y. Custom House, which
is not half so favourable as that
of Boston. Remember me very
affectionately to Mr Garrison & Mr
Wallcutt & all our friends & pray write
at as early a date as you can.